



TechDiscovery builds a Mobile Mapping Solution for a Geospatial Innovator

TechDiscovery developed a mobile application that allows users to easily share and gather rich mapping data from any location in the world.

The Client

Terrago Technologies is a leading provider of geospatial data distribution and collaboration solutions. Its groundbreaking application leverages the ubiquitous Adobe portable document format in order to breakdown technology barriers between geospatial professionals and those who need access to geospatial data. It also enables the conversion of complex geospatial information into user-friendly, interactive files that offer extensive embedded data and mapping features.

The Challenge

After bringing to market the industry's only geospatial data distribution tool to utilize Adobe PDF, Terrago was determined to continue on its path of industry innovation and leadership.

The next advancement for the company was to design and deliver a mobile solution for geospatial data. The development of a hand-held software solution give users the ability to easily share and gather rich mapping data from any location in the world.

Re-tooling the rich geospatial desktop application for mobile use was both an ambitious and complex challenge for the young, growing geospatial industry innovator. This groundbreaking organization was rich in geospatial application and data experts; however, the software development team required additional expertise in handheld devices and software in order to deliver an application that would revolutionize mobile mapping capabilities. In addition, the company's goal to rapidly bring the solution to market required expanding the development team.

Terrago turned to TechDiscovery in order to gain a team of software experts who could develop the company's first geospatial mobile application.

“TechDiscovery offered the senior consulting talent and the proven software development experience needed to help build, develop and deliver our next generation of mobile applications.”

The Solution

TechDiscovery’s core tasks were to 1) provide product development consulting, 2) determine scheduling and planning (a roadmap for development) and 3) deliver technical expertise in mobile handheld device applications.

The TechDiscovery team consisted of a senior product manager, a senior technical consultant, an application architect, a technical expert in mobile handheld devices and a quality assurance manager.

Starting in May of 2007, TechDiscovery worked in collaboration with the client’s development team to build a comprehensive roadmap for designing and delivering the application. Working under extremely tight deadlines, the two teams needed to quickly tackle numerous technical challenges: “Our job was to build a mobile platform that was cutting-edge, which meant working with tools and mobile operating systems that were also brand new to the market. It required a ‘hyper-focused’ effort from the entire team and smart, fast decision making.”

According to Terrago, the legacy of project management, process excellence and thorough knowledge transfer left by TechDiscovery improved the company’s entire approach to product development: “The project management skills and knowledge TechDiscovery brought to the development process have been invaluable to our entire organization,” said the CEO.

The Result

In just three months, the mobile mapping solution went from the white board all the way to prototyping. By August of 2007, Terrago was able to take over the comprehensive roadmap established by TechDiscovery and prepare to launch its new mobile mapping application.

TechDiscovery is very proud to have played a role in the development of this mobile application. Terrago is a true innovator, and it was an amazing opportunity for TechDiscovery to work on the cutting edge of the geospatial mapping industry.